

February 2021



First Baptist Church of Medford
34 Oakland Street
Medford, MA 02155
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		7:30pm Christian Ed via Zoom 7:30pm Property via Zoom 4pm Laura Thomas MH	8:00pm Prayer Meeting via Zoom/Facebook 4pm Laura Thomas MH Zemba Quintet, 6-10, 34	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany 11:00am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom/Facebook and YouTube	7:30pm Finance via Zoom		8:00pm Prayer Meeting via Zoom/Facebook 4pm Laura Thomas / MH Zemba Quintet, 6-10, 34	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	8:00pm Bible Study via Zoom with Pastor Greg	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY 11:00am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom/Facebook and YouTube	6:30pm BBSU Christian Work Comm/Mem Hall	7:30pm Diaconate via Zoom	ASH WEDNESDAY 6:00pm Soup to Go 8:00pm WORSHIP via Zoom/Facebook 4pm Laura Thomas/MH Zemba Quintet, 6-10, 34	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
First Sunday in Lent 11:00am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom/Facebook and YouTube			6:00pm Soup to Go? 8:00pm Prayer Meeting via Zoom/Facebook 4pm Laura Thomas/MH Zemba Quintet, 6-10, 34	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	8:00pm Bible Study via Zoom with Pastor Greg	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28						
Second Sunday in Lent 11:00am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom/Facebook and YouTube						

The Carillon



THE PARSON'S TALE

My heart swelled with inordinate pride as our Church Corporation recently held its first hybrid meeting on January 24th. A small group gathered—socially distanced—in the Sanctuary and a much larger group gathered on Zoom. Through the wonders of modern technology and the tireless work of the AV Booth, we were able to see and hear each other, to deliberate on church business, and to vote.

This experience—which was truly thrilling for me—prompted me to reflect on how quaint this accomplishment will seem to those who make up the First Baptist Church in twenty-five or fifty years from now. What was a giant technological leap for us, for them will seem elementary. I think it will be as twee as the long defunct gaslight fixtures we still have in the sanctuary and other places around the building—a reminder that a generation or two ago our resources and abilities were markedly different.

In 1910 the great American Baptist thinker, Walter Rauschenbusch, published his volume *Prayers of the Social Awakening*. Near the end of this book, he included a “Prayer for Those Who Come After Us.” In this spirit, I would like you to join me in praying with Rev. Rauschenbusch for those who will inherit the church and the world we are building for them.

O GOD, we pray thee for those who come after us, for our children and the children of our friends, and for all the young lives that are marching up from

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(781) 396-3811 || (781) 396-5699
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the gates of birth, pure and eager, with the morning sunshine on their faces. We remember with a pang that these will live in the world we are making for them.

We are wasting the resources of the earth in our headlong greed, and they will suffer want. We are building sunless houses and joyless cities for our profit, and they must dwell therein. We are making the burden heavy and the pace of work pitiless, and they will fall wan and sobbing by the wayside. We are poisoning the air of our land by our lies and our uncleanness, and they will breathe it.

O God, ... [h]elp us to break the ancient force of evil by a holy and steadfast will and to endow our children with purer blood and nobler thoughts. Grant us grace to leave the earth fairer than we found it; to build upon it cities of God in which the cry of needless pain shall cease; and to put the yoke of Christ upon our business life that it may serve and not destroy.

Lift the veil of the future and show us the generation to come as it will be if blighted by our guilt, that our lust may be cooled and we may walk in the fear of the Eternal. Grant us a vision of the far-off years as they may be if redeemed by the sons of God, that we may take heart and do battle for thy children and ours.

From the pen of Rev. Rauschenbusch a century ago to OUR lips; from our lips to God's ears ...

Rev. Matt

SUNDAY SCHEDULE (SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

9:30 a.m. Church School for all Ages. Child care is provided until 12:15

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

~11:15 a.m. Make and Learn for Children in Grades 1-5, 2nd and 4th Sundays
(Children leave during the second hymn)

Youth Group for Grades 6 and older, 2nd and 4th Sundays

Following worship, there is Fellowship in Memorial Hall, provided by volunteers.

**Services will be held in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.—Attendance Limited—
Reservations required via <https://forms.gle/4BhAKaqCrT68Sj8Y6>, by Thursday each week**

All Worship Services during February will also be available via Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021 —HOLY
COMMUNION

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Matthew Rasure

Scriptures: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalms 147:1-11, 20c;
Mark 1:29-39

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021—

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Gloria Jean Wright

Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalms 50:1-6;
2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY VIRTUAL SERVICE

Only on ZOOM and Facebook

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Matthew Rasure

Scripture: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalms 51:1-17;
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021—

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Matthew Rasure

Scriptures: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalms 25:1-10;
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021—

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Matthew Rasure

Scriptures: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalms 22:23-31;
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

Should the Governor declare a State of Emergency related to inclement weather, in-person services will be moved online. Anyone with reservations for or roles in affected services will receive a phone call or email as early as possible. Turn

to www.firstbaptistchurchmedford.org, www.facebook.com/FirstChurchMedford, or check your FBC
Updates emails for up-to-date information.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MEDFORD
February Moments

1948 During the first Youth Week, the various church offices were taken over by the young people and they were included in the officer's Council meeting. The week was concluded with a Candlelight Communion and Consecration Service.

1964 Boston East Baptist Bible School Association had their convention here at FBC during Youth Week. June Carlson was Youth Pastor and Richard Ryti was Associate Youth Pastor this year. There was a banquet with Rev. Robert Miller as the speaker. Dr. Orlando Tibbetts was the speaker at the Youth Communion Service, which, it was noted by the Historian, was well attended by youth, but poorly by adults.

1985 On February 10, the Director of the Department of Special Needs Ministries, TABCOM, Rev. Roger MacDonald, was our guest, and spoke on "Opening Windows."

1982 The Rev. Robert Willett, who inaugurated Youth Week, when he was our Minister of Education, paid us a surprise visit on the first Sunday of Youth Week. Irene Purdy and Kimberly Tillis were the Youth Pastors and they spoke that day on, "What My Faith Means to Me." On the second Sunday of Youth Week this year the message was "I Take Communion Because..." led by the youth with members of the congregation taking part by speaking informally during the service.

1990 A new steel bulkhead door to the basement of 34 Oakland Street was completed, only one of many, many accomplishments of our Property Committee over the years. A few of our young people attended Winter Camp at Grotonwood.

2020 Dr. Nancy Crandall announced her retirement as Organist and Choir Director, effective at the end of the choir season in early June.

These historical moments are excerpts from the monthly articles for the Carillon by our last church historian, June Sturgeon.

HOW TO CONNECT ELECTRONICALLY
FOR WORSHIP AND MEETINGS AT FBC
MEDFORD

We are now gathering for worship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary (for people who have made a reservation by Thursday for the following Sunday). In addition, for worship, live streaming is now available on ZOOM, YouTube and FaceBook in real time.

The ZOOM and FaceBook links below will work for ALL of the Prayer Meetings and Worship services. There is a password required for all Zoom log ins: 7813963811.

The Prayer Meetings are on Wednesday (and may resume on Friday evenings) from 8:00-8:20 p.m.

The Worship service begins at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays

- By telephone, dial 1-929-205-6099, Meeting ID: 781-396-3811#, and then # again
- By computer/phone/device through ZOOM: at <https://zoom.us/j/7813963811>
- On FaceBook Live: www.facebook.com/FirstChurchMedford

If you need help connecting electronically, please leave a message at the Church Office at 781-396-3811 or email Rev Matt at minister@firstbaptistchurchmedford.org.

If you are willing and able to help someone else set up ZOOM, to access FaceBook or YouTube, also contact Rev. Matt. See videos of previous online meetings and all of the latest updates at: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstChurchMedford/posts>

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IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

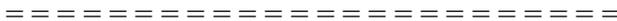
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HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 3 John Wallace III | 17 Steeve Paul |
| Dante Welch | 19 Elizabeth Kehoe |
| 7 Kurt Drauschke | 20 Amanda Blake |
| 8 Bradley Day | 21 Tom D'Eon |
| Charles Hurley III | Alexander James King |
| 14 Craig Drauschke | 26 Christopher Stone |
| 15 Jacqueline Rogers | 27 Diane Noel |
| 16 Patricia Latham | 28 Bradley Gake |
| William Miller | Jillian Hurley |

Note from the Editor: The monthly birthday lists were taken from the Parish List, and last fully revised in December 2014. Especially for members who have joined our congregation since then, if you would like your birthday or those of your family listed, please contact Barbara Drauschke.

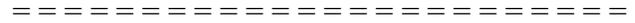


EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER FOR FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

In case of an emergency requiring immediate assistance from the church or minister, please call or text 781-350-4067. This phone number is on the church's answering machine, as well. This local Medford number will go direct to Rev. Matt's cellphone or to the phone of whomever is on call should he be away.

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in need of pastoral care, or know of someone who is, or are interested in baptism or church membership, please contact Rev. Rasure, Ruth Kline or Ken Tarr, Co-Chairs of the Diaconate.

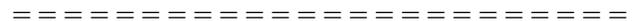


GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE ON FEBRUARY 7

On Sunday, February 7th, we will gather around the table for Holy Communion. Communion will be distributed in sterile, pre-packaged, single serve cups.

For those worshipping virtually, there are two ways to participate in Holy Communion AFTER the service.

- + The pastors will be available in front of the church on Oakland Street from Noon to 12:30 to distribute the elements from the Table.
- + The Deacons or Communion Ministers will bring the elements from the Table to your house.
- + If you have registered to attend the in-person service, you do not need to reserve Communion.



TO RECEIVE FBC EMAIL LIST

If you do not already receive the FBC Updates, Children's Chat Double-Takes, and other emails from the Church, you can sign up at <https://firstbaptistchurchmedford.org/email-sign-up>

DONATING TO FBC USING YOUR BANK'S AUTOMATIC BILL

It's simple and it's free! Even though your pledge donations to **First Baptist Church** aren't technically "bills," you can still set it up to have your bank send one-time or recurring gifts to **FBC**. **Here are some guidelines to help you get this set up with your bank.**

1. Follow the directions on your bank's website to set up a new bill or payee
2. If given a choice, choose to pay a company rather than a person.
3. In the space for "Company Name" enter: **First Baptist Church**
4. In the space for "Company Address" enter:
Attn: Financial Secretary
34 Oakland Street
Medford, MA 02155
5. In the space for "Company Phone Number" enter: 781.396.3811
6. In the space for "Account Number" enter your first initial and your last name, for example: MRASURE
7. After you have set up First Baptist Church as a biller, it is added to your list of bills or payees and you can select it at any time and enter a payment amount and a payment date
8. You will also have the option of setting up automatic or recurring payments (this adds greater convenience but is not recommended if there is a risk of overdrawing from your account)

Bill Pay is usually a free service of your checking account, but some banks charge a monthly fee for their bill pay service which can be waived depending on account balance, etc.

The church is not charged any fees for receiving a donation through your bank's bill pay service, so what you donate is what will appear on your annual giving statements.



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FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

On January 24 we had our annual budget meeting in conjunction with the postponed Annual Meeting. The proposed budget was accepted. We finished the year with a positive cash balance. Having received a PPP loan from the federal government was instrumental in enabling us to close out the year in the black. The loan has been forgiven since it was used for salaries. However, we face challenges in the coming year with the closing of Oakland Park Children's Center at the end of June. This has been a significant source of income. The Property and Finance Committees are looking for other potential renters.

If you have not received your envelopes and would like to get them, please call the church office or me, and we can make arrangements.

Our next Finance Committee meeting will be Monday, February 8, at 7:30 pm. via Zoom.

Fred Drauschke, Co-Chair

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UNITED BAPTIST WOMEN OF MEDFORD ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to these continuing uncertain times, and social distancing requirements, with the vaccine not yet widely distributed, we have decided to postpone United Baptist Women meetings and dinners until further notice.

When we are able, the Board will meet to decide how to proceed and will include information in a future issue of the Carillon. Stay safe!

Beverly Mattatall, President

...FROM THE DIACONATE

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. That evening Pastor Matt will be leading a Lenten service at 8pm, in lieu of our usual Wednesday Evening Prayer Service. Please join us via Zoom or Facebook.

All are encouraged to join FBC Medford every Wednesday evening at 8pm for Prayer, via Zoom or Facebook.

“And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”
Matthew 25:40

Among the roles of the Diaconate are to "...in every way assist the Pastor in the Pastor's work and give general oversight to the spiritual life of the Church.”

Please share your ideas, thoughts or observations about how we can better serve the church and the community, by contacting a member of the Diaconate: Ruth Kline, Ken Tarr, Pat Latham, Jim Griffin, Fred Drauschke, Carmel Dumond, Jodi Cloney, Cliff Quick, Doug Tibbetts, Bev Mattatall or Darlyne Rogers.

The next Diaconate meeting will be Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

Ruth Kline, Co-Chair

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**LENTEN DEVOTIONS at FBC—
A VIDEO PILGRIMAGE**

Every Thursday in Lent, FBC will release a 5–10 minute educational and inspirational video on the theme of “Pilgrimage.” God’s people are always on a journey, and as we travel it is important to visit and to re-visit the places and moments that have shaped who we are and where we have gone. The video devotions will feature both familiar faces from the church and denominational life and a few new ones. Each week will be a surprise!

The videos will be emailed to the congregation and will be available at on Facebook, Youtube, and

<https://firstbaptistchurchmedford.org/lent-at-fbc>

Rev Matt

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**WE WELCOME REV. DR. G. JEAN WRIGHT
TO PREACH ON FEBRUARY 14**

The First Baptist Church of Medford is delighted to welcome Rev. Dr. Gloria Jean Wright to its pulpit [virtually!] on Transfiguration Sunday, February 14th. Rev. Jean was ordained at FBC in October of 1982 by Rev. Louis R. Beckwith, the 21st Minister of the Church, and she served as Associate Pastor. Rev. Jean retired as the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society in 2014, and now resides in Virginia.



During the service on the February 14th, Rev. Jean will receive the *Daniel Sharp Award for Ministerial Excellence* from the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts, presented by Rev. Cheryl Harris and Rev. Michael Harvey.

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SOUP TO GO

Fred and Barbara Drauschke are hoping to start the season of Lent by continuing the recent program of having a simple soup supper before the Ash Wednesday service. We will be offering for pick up a Clam Chowder, Salad and Bread supper for anyone who wants to partake. Pick up will be at the rear of the church by the handicap entrance. Reservations are needed by Monday evening, February 15 at 6:00 p.m. There will be no charge for the meal, but donations will be accepted. If there is inclement weather we will have to cancel the meal and will notify those who made reservations.

If there is an interest in continuing this throughout Lent, we would offer a different soup supper each Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. Please let us know if you are interested.



**TINY LIBRARY AND MICRO-PANTRY
AT 34 OAKLAND STREET**

If you'd like to donate new or gently used children's books (for pre-school through middle school kids) for the **Tiny Library**, please leave them in the blue bin on the front porch at 34.

Food Donations Needed: Please drop off any non-perishable food donations for the **Micro-Pantry**, by directly putting items in the micro-pantry, or in the blue box on the front porch at 34. Items that are high in protein are most needed: Tuna, chicken, peanut butter, beans. Other items include shelf-stable milk, boxes of cereal and instant oatmeal, and granola or breakfast bars.



**Feeding the
Community**

Provided by CC BY-NC

We have a group of volunteers who check the contents of the Micro-Pantry daily and restock. Our goal is for it to be fully stocked as much as possible. It is clear that the need is great in our community. We would love to get more church members who are able to help involved. Please help if you can.

If you are willing to be on an Emergency Restock call/email list, in cases when the cupboard is empty, and we are out of donations, please contact Barbara Drauschke. This might mean making an emergency run to a grocery store to purchase items to restock the micro-pantry.

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH YouTube
CHANNEL**

Please "subscribe" to the FBC YouTube Channel TODAY! We now need only **19** more subscribers! The easiest way to find it is to Google "First Baptist Medford YouTube," because our URL is long and unwieldy: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCa2EY8k-QgooCzMq2hpSxyQ>

IF we can get 100 subscribers, we will be able to customize our URL to something much easier to remember! So, please subscribe today and ask your friends to do it, too!

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**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
NEWS**

Thanks to Barbara Drauschke, Wendy Cox, Jodi and Lia Cloney, Karen Miller and Emma Terrien, and Val Donadio who offered Children's stories in January. The Children's Chat has been incorporated into in person worship via the AV projection system. On Sunday afternoons, the video of the Children's Chat is being sent out to the FBC Email list, along with a few thought-provoking questions about the story, and a page to color and/or an activity to do. Please let us know how you like this—we like feedback!

The Board will meet next on Tuesday, February 2 via Zoom to discuss plans and possibilities for our Christian Education program going forward.

Diane Tobey and Tricia Voner, Co-Chairs



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BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR GREG

Join us on the second and fourth Fridays in February (12th and 26th) at 8:00 p.m. as we continue our exploration of Holy Scripture through a discussion of the readings for the coming Sundays. Our study sessions are designed to stand on their own each week, so feel free to join us for one or both.

Connect with us through Zoom with the church meeting ID and password, both 7813963811.

You are invited to contact Pastor Greg by email (gregory.sakal@gmail.com) or phone (617-823-1798) with any questions.

RESERVATIONS FOR WORSHIP

We have opened the doors of the Sanctuary for a carefully curated, social distanced worship service. This experience is a FAR CRY from the worship services we have shared together in the past. An over-abundance of safety, caution, and diligence underpin everything we attempt to do. The services are open to around 30 people and attendance is **BY ADVANCED RESERVATION ONLY.**

Individuals and groups wishing to attend the service should **make their reservations at the link below by Thursday.** On Friday we will

confirm your reservation, and on Saturday we will send you your assigned pew number.

<https://forms.gle/4BhAKaqCrT68Sj8Y6>

The safest way to participate in the worship of the First Baptist Church is virtually.

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PLEASE CONTINUE TO SAVE PULL TABS

The Board of Missions, Outreach and Social Concern (MOSC) continues to collect the pull tabs from soda cans and other products to donate to the Shriners Children’s Transportation Fund. Removing the tabs and bringing them to church is a small way we can all help.

When you are able to again bring your redeemable soda cans and plastic (only—no glass, please) bottles to church, please remove the pull tabs and place them in the separate collection bucket, and place the returnables in the labeled boxes in the closet adjacent to Memorial Hall. Please bring redeemable items only. Thanks to Bev Mattatall and Anthony Voner for their work on this project.

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The deadline for March issue of the Carillon is February 20. Copies are available by e-mail, or first class mail. We have expanded the email distribution list because of COVID remote requirements. Some copies are hand delivered to homes close to the church. Thanks to Margo McCole for her help in running off the paper copies and making the labels.